# St. Louis County Department of Public Works Division of Code Enforcement

# RESIDENTIAL DETACHED GARAGES **BUILDING PERMIT REQUIREMENTS**

This guideline is intended to provide the homeowner/contractor with the basic information needed to apply for a building permit to construct a detached garage.

- 1. Fill out and sign application for a building permit.
- 2. Submit four (4) separate copies of your plot (site) plan drawn to scale showing existing structures and the proposed detached garage and its perpendicular distances to the lot lines and from the other structures on the lot, if any.

Site plans must show water run-off (use arrows to indicate flow of water). The location of the detached garage can not obstruct any swales or natural water run-off.

- 3. Obtain zoning approval from the St. Louis County Department of Public Works (if unincorporated) or from municipality. In municipalities site plans must be marked "Approved" and Municipal Approval Form submitted prior to permit issuance...
- 4. Submit four (4) separate complete sets of detailed building construction plans drawn to scale containing the following:

Foundation and Floor Plan @ 1/4" = 1'-0" Elevations @ 1/4" = 1'-0" Sections and Details @ min. 3/4" = 1'-0"

Include one of the following in your plan submittal depending on choice of roof framing systems:

- If by conventional method, indicate size and spacing of rafters, ceiling (1) joists, and/or ties on the sections and details included in the plans submitted.
- If by the "truss" method, submit four (4) copies of the engineer's sealed (2) truss plan which can be obtained from the lumber dealer or the "truss" fabricator. Trusses comply with AFPA NDS-05 and TPI 1-02.

Refer to the attached drawings and the following listing of common code requirements pertaining to most detached garages for additional information that needs to be included on the building construction plans.

5. All electrical work (if proposed) must be performed in accordance with St. Louis County Codes and Ordinances by a licensed electrical contractor or a pre-authorized homeowner who by examination has demonstrated the necessary knowledge and ability to perform the work.

6. Issuance of a building permit for the project does not authorize construction access to the work site. If the existing driveway entrance to the site is unavailable for construction access, the owner/contractor shall apply for a permit to construct a temporary entrance from the owner of the Right-of-Way.

For additional information regarding the criteria in this handout, please contact:

	<u>Contact</u>	
General Information	(314) 615-5184	
Permit Processing	(314) 615-7155	
Zoning Review	(314) 615-3763	
Building Plan Review	(314) 615-5485	
Right-of-Way Owner		
State	(888) 275-6636	
County	(314) 615-8517	
Municipality	Municipality	

# Plan Preparation and Common Code Requirements Pertaining to Most Projects

# **Footing and Foundation Walls**

The footing shall be a minimum 6" thick x 12" wide installed 30" below grade. The foundation wall on top of the footing shall be a minimum of 8" in thickness and extend a minimum of 8" above the outside grade.

Exception: The foundation wall may terminate 6" above the outside grade if all wood on top of the foundation wall located less than 8" above the outside grade is pressure treated.

The foundation wall and footing may be a single pour if the wall is flared at the bottom a minimum of 12" in width.

Detached garages 400 square feet or less in area (using the exterior dimensions of the garage) and a roof eave height of 10' or less may be constructed on the top of a perimeter concrete slab turndown 8" in thickness and a minimum of 12" below grade.

### **Sill Plate Anchorage**

1/2" diameter anchor bolts, 7" minimum embedment, 6' maximum o.c. spacing and at ends/corners with 1-1/2" diameter washers and nuts. Minimum 2 bolts per plate regardless of length.

Exception: Use 2"x2"x3/16" plate washers in lieu of ½" diameter washers when the sillboard is part of an APA Narrow Wall Bracing Panel.

## **Exterior Wall Framing**

2 x 6 framing standard grade or better studs may be spaced 24" o.c. in a wall 10' or less in height.

Exception: 2x4's o.c. may be used when supporting a roof spanning less than 32'

# **Roof Framing**

For conventional framed roof systems, indicate size, spacing, fiber stress, type and grade of wood for roof rafters and ceiling joists. Indicate roof pitch. Show rafter and ceiling joist framing layout on plans.

Trussed roofs and/or floors shall have sealed truss plans indicating spacing and roof pitch for each span utilized. Include girder trusses if utilized. Show truss framing layout including girder locations on the plans. All trusses shall comply with TPI 1-2002.

All roof framing shall be designed to support the following minimums:

Top chord of trusses Snow Load 20 lb. per sq. ft.

or roof rafter: Dead Load Use actual dead load.(Note: Dead load must

include 2 layers of roofing membrane

Ceiling joists or Bottom chord of trusses: Use a live load of 20 lb. per sq. ft when there is a possibility of attic storage. Attic storage shall be addressed when a 42" high, 24" wide rectangle can be placed perpendicular to the rafters/ceiling joists or trusses Use 10 lb per sq. ft. live load where there is no attic storage. Dead load—use actual dead load.

Note: The live load design on the ceiling joist or bottom chord of a truss shall not be required if all of the following conditions are adhered to:

- a. Attics with drywall ceilings below that are accessed only by a 22" x 30" scuttle opening without a pull-down stairway.
- b. Warning signs attached to the trusses on each side of the scuttle opening at least 36" above the bottom chord and within 18" of the edge of the opening. The signs shall be constructed of metal or other approved durable materials suitable for the location and be a minimum of 40 sq. inches in area with 3/4" minimum high letters on a contrasting background that reads "WARNING-TRUSSES NOT DESIGNED FOR ATTIC STORAGE".
- c. Attic areas over garage areas with drywall ceilings shall also be provided with a horizontal railing attached to the trusses on each side of the scuttle opening at least 24" and not more than 36" above the bottom chord. The railing is intended to be an obstruction to easy access for storage and shall be constructed of either 1x4's, 2x4's or 3/8"x 6" plywood. It may be shop or field applied.

Where trusses or rafters are spaced 24" o.c., roof panels shall be a minimum of 15/32" thick sheathing without edge support or a minimum of 3/8" thick (minimum 24/0 span rated) sheathing with edge support. Edge support shall be tongue-and-groove edges, panel edge clips (at mid-point between each support) or 2x lumber blocking.

### **Roof Sheathing**

Roof sheathing: Where trusses or rafters are spaced 24" o.c. roof panel sheathing shall be a minimum of 7/16" thick without edge support of 3/8" thick with edge support. Edge support shall be tongue-and-groove edges, panel edge clips (at mid-point between each support) or 2X lumber blocking. Nailing shall be 6d common for 3/8" and 1/2" sheathing and 8d common for sheathing greater than 1/2" (location - 6" o.c. along edges, 12" o.c.

intermediate).

# **Wall Bracing**

All walls shall be braced using the attached "Garage Bracing Guideline for One and Two Family Dwellings or Townhouses" or you may brace the garage using the Appendix A1 document found at <a href="https://www.stlouisco.com/pubworks">www.stlouisco.com/pubworks</a>:

## **Garage Floor Slab**

Minimum thickness of concrete floor slabs supported directly on the ground is 3 1/2". The slab shall be placed over a minimum 4" base course of gravel or crushed stone.

# **Roofing Underlayment and Covering**

Class A, B, or C roofing shall be required where the edge of the roof is less than 3' to the property line.

Underlayment for asphalt shingles:

Slopes of 2:12 to less than 4:12 shall be protected with two layers of underlayment. Apply a 19" strip of underlayment felt parallel with and starting at the eaves, fastened sufficiently to hold into place. Starting at the eave, apply 36" wide sheets of underlayment. Successive 36" wide sheets of underlayment shall overlap the previous 36" wide sheet by 19". All underlayment shall be fastened sufficiently to hold into place.

Slopes equaling or exceeding 4:12 shall be protected with one layer of underlayment. Underlayment shall be applied shingle fashion, parallel to and starting from the eave and lapped 2", fastened sufficiently to hold in place. End laps shall be offset by 6'.

All underlayment to be a minimum of Type I per ASTM D226-06 or Type I per ASTM D4869-05e01 (Type I is commonly called No. 15 asphalt felt.)

Indicate corrosion-resistant flashing at all wall and roof intersections, changes in roof slope or direction, around all roof openings, intersections with chimneys, intersection of exterior walls and porches and decks, etc. Valley flashing shall be installed per R905.2.8.2

Built-up membrane roof slope is 1/4:12 with approved low-slope roof covering materials. A Coal-Tar built-up membrane may be installed on 1/8:12 slope.

Mineral-surfaced roll roofing shall conform to ASTM D 3909 or D 6380M. It shall not be installed on roof slopes below 1:12.

# <u>Siding</u>

Owners choice of finish weather-resistant siding.

#### **Electrical**

Receptacles (when proposed) must be on ground fault circuit.

The preceding requirements apply to most detached garages, however, the Plan Reviewer may determine that unusual circumstance dictate the need for additional information on any particular project.

For structures proposed 5' or closer to a property line consult both Zoning (unincorporated area) and Building Plan Review within the Department of Public Works.

#### GARAGE BRACING GUIDELINE FOR ONE AND TWO FAMILY DWELLINGS OR TOWNHOUSES

The construction documents shall detail the locations and widths of all braced wall panels in accordance with the following criteria:

- The building exterior walls shall be sheathed with 7/16 inch or thicker plywood or OSB wood structural panels. The wood structural panels shall be applied to all exterior walls, gable ends, and band boards. All vertical joints between panels shall be blocked. Horizontal joints in braced wall panels shall be blocked.
- 2. Braced wall panels shall be located in every exterior braced wall line in accordance with the following criteria:
  - a. The outside edge of the first braced wall panel meeting the width established in Table R602.10.10.3 shall be a maximum of 12.5 feet or less from each end of the braced wall line. The outside stud of the first braced wall panels closest to the ends of the braced wall line shall be secured with a hold-down device securing the end stud to the foundation with a minimum uplift design value of 800 pounds.

Exception: The 800 pound hold-down device is not required when the braced wall panel is placed at the end of the braced wall line and there is a 24 inch wide full height sheathed wall placed 90 degrees to the end of the braced wall line and panel.

- b. The centerline spacing of braced wall panels in a braced wall line may not exceed 25 feet.
- 3. Braced wall panel locations shall be shown on the floor plans or the elevation views and meet the widths established in Table R602.10.10.3.

# TABLE 602.10.10.3 SIMPLIFIED BRACING PANEL WIDTHS

		WIDTH OF SOLID PANEL a, b				
		8' wall height	9' wall height	10' wall height	12' wall height	
Plywood/OSB Panel	3:1	32"	36"	40"	48"	
Simplified Portal Wall <sup>c</sup>	6:1	16" <sup>a</sup>	18" <sup>d</sup>	20" <sup>d</sup>	24" <sup>d</sup>	

- a. Linear interpolation is permitted
- b. Wall height is the vertical distance from the bottom of the sole/sill plate to the top of the double top plate. An additional 2 inch (50.8 mm) variation in height is allowed for pre-cut stud framing.
- c. The Simplified Portal Wall, if applicable, shall be constructed in accordance with the applicable detail in Figure R602.10.10.3. The designer shall provide this detail on the construction documents.
- d. The Simplified Portal Wall width assumes the beam is placed under the top plate of the wall. A smaller width may be calculated for a lower top of beam height using the 6:1 height to width ratio.
- 4. The exterior wall corners shall be constructed in accordance with the applicable detail in Figure R602.10.10.4.

Exception: Braced wall panels located in accordance with Item 2.

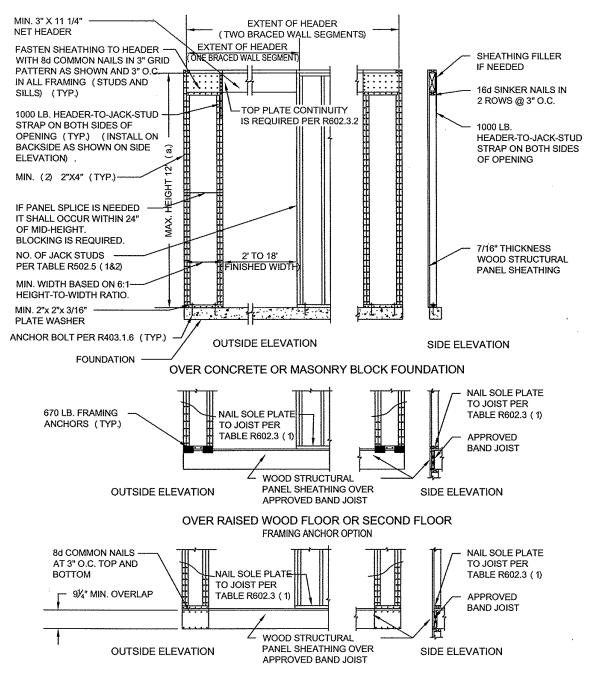
5. When the perpendicular distance between the exterior braced wall lines exceeds 50 feet, the registered design professional shall include the following certification on the drawings:

The interior and exterior wall configuration braces the structure in accordance with or equivalent to the lateral bracing provisions of Section R602.10 of the International Residential Code, 2009 edition or Section 2305 of the International Building Code, 2009 edition.

6. Wall height may not exceed 12 feet (12'-2" actual maximum height). Walls greater than 12 feet in height shall be designed and detailed by the registered design professional to resist wind loads in both the longitudinal (racking and parallel) and transverse (perpendicular) directions.

Exception: Structural calculations and details are not required in the following situations:

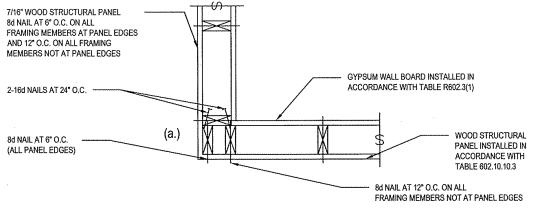
- a. Longitudinal structural calculations are not required when there are no braced wall panels in that portion of a wall where the height exceeds 12 feet and that greater wall height segment is part of a prescriptive braced wall line on each of the adjacent stories.
- b. Transverse structural calculations are not required if the wall exceeding 12'-2" complies with Table R602.3.1 of the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC).
- 7. Braced wall panel connections to floor and roof/ceiling assemblies shall comply with Sections R602.10.6 and R602.10.7 of the 2009 International Residential Code (IRC).



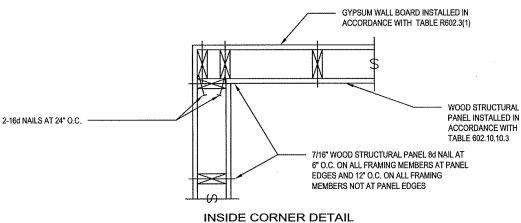
# OVER RAISED WOOD FLOOR OR SECOND FLOOR WOOD STRUCTURAL PANEL OVERLAP OPTION

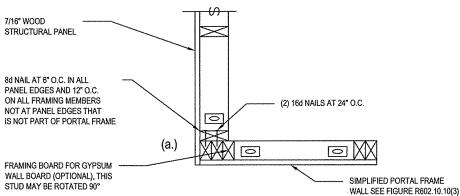
## FIGURE R602.10.10.3 SIMPLIFIED PORTAL WALL

a. CRIPPLE WALL FRAMING CONSISTING OF STUD FRAMING, SINGLE BOTTOM PLATE, AND DOUBLE TOP PLATE MAY BE ADDED TO THE TOP OF THE NARROW PORTAL WALL AS LONG AS THE COMBINED HEIGHT OF THE TWO WALLS IS LESS THAN OR EQUAL TO 12 FEET AND THE TWO WALLS ARE STRAPPED TOGETHER ON THE INTERIOR SIDE WITH A 16GUAGE METAL 1 1/2 INCH WIDE BY 21 INCH LONG STRAP. A MINIMUM 10 INCHES OF THE STRAP SHALL BE CONNECTED TO EACH WALL OR GABLE TRUSS WITH 9 - 16D NAILS FOR A TOTAL OF 18-16D NAILS IN THE ENTIRE STRAP. STRAPS SHALL BE LOCATED AT EACH END OF THE CONNECTED WALLS OR WALL AND GABLE TRUSS WHERE SPACE ALLOWS FOR THE 10 INCH LENGTH OF STRAP. THE SPACING BETWEEN THE STRAPS MAY NOT EXCEED 4 FEET ON CENTER. THE STRAPS SHALL NOT BE BENT HORIZONTALLY TO ACCOMMODATE WOOD FRAMING. IF APPLICABLE, NAILERS SHALL BE ADDED TO ONE OF THE WALLS OR GABLE END USING A MINIMUM OF 9-16D NAILS TO CREATE THE VERTICAL PLANE NEEDED TO MOUNT THE STRAP.



#### **OUTSIDE CORNER DETAIL**





#### **CORNER DETAIL** USED IN CONJUNCTION WITH SIMPLIFIED PORTAL WALL

### FIGURE R602.10.10.4 SIMPLIFIED BRACING EXTERIOR CORNER FRAMING

a. END STUD INDICATED ON THE ABOVE DETAILS MAY BE SHIFTED 7/16" TO ALLOW STUD FACE TO BE ALIGNED WITH SHEATHING, OR AN OPTIONAL NON-STRUCTURAL FILLER PANEL MAY BE USED.

